

Ann Arbor, MI 03/02/2015. Diapin Therapeutics, LLC., a company dedicated to the development of treatments for type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease, announced today the allowance of claims from US Patent application 14/087,247. The claims provide coverage of Diapin's 3 amino acid peptides for the treatment of type 2 diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, metabolic syndrome, poor glycemic control or reduced insulin secretion. "These claims solidify our position in the field of diabetes therapy and further protect our peptides for which we previously had oral dosage form claims allowed," said Bruce E. Markham, Diapin's President and CEO. "We have made substantial progress in demonstrating a novel mechanism of action, in selecting a lead peptide (DT-110) and in the scale-up of DT-110. It is now possible to move ahead with preclinical development which will be led by our partner Beijing SL Pharmaceuticals," said Markham. Rights to the US Patent application 14/087,247 have been licensed, by Diapin, from the University of Michigan.

About Type 2 Diabetes

Non-insulin-dependent (type 2) diabetes (T2D) is a major medical problem in the industrialized world. According to the Center for Disease Control, diabetes affects 8.3% (26 million) of the US population, and another 79 million have characteristics of pre-diabetes (insulin-resistance). According to the New England Journal of Medicine, 9.7% of the population in China (94 million) is afflicted with diabetes with another 150 million with pre-diabetes. T2D is the most common form of diabetes. It is a chronic disease where the patient has high glucose levels in the blood. The disease results from problems in the way the body makes and/or uses insulin. Insulin stimulates cells to take up glucose where it is stored and used to produce energy. In patients with T2D, fat, liver, and muscle cells become resistant to the effects of insulin and glucose accumulates in the blood. T2D develops over time. As people gain weight and become obese, the fat cells and fat that accumulates in other cells inhibit the cellular response to insulin. Low activity level, poor diet and excess body fat increase the risk of developing the disease.

Early symptoms of T2D include frequent bladder, kidney skin or other infections that heal slowly, fatigue, hunger, increased thirst, increased urination, blurred vision, erectile dysfunction and pain or numbness in the extremities. If left untreated, or as the disease progresses, more serious complications can occur including eye problems (blindness or light sensitivity), sores that won't heal and are prone to infection, cardiovascular complications including increases in blood pressure and cholesterol that can lead to heart attack and stroke, nerve damage, digestive problems, and kidney damage or failure.

1 http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/statistics/prevalence_national.htm

2 Yang, W. et al., NEJM (2010) 362: 1090-1101

3 NIH-PubMed Health web page:
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/PMH0001356/>